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November 22, 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

From : Edmund S. Muskies

1. Namibia: South Africa yesterday accepted the U.N. Secretary General's proposal for an all-parties "pre-implementation meeting" on the UN Plan for Namibian independence. The meeting would be held January 7-14. South Africa has agreed that if "trust and confidence" can be established among the parties, implementation of the U.N. Plan can start by March 1, 1981, with a view to independence by the end of the year.

Although we consider South African acceptance of the implementation date a significant achievement, representatives of the Front Line States in New York are skeptical about the South African linkage of implementation to the prior establishment of "trust and confidence." These Front Line States envoys won't block the meeting, but they apparently want to go ahead with the U.N. General Assembly debate on Namibia, scheduled to begin early next week. We have instructed our Embassies in the Front Line States to join their colleagues from the Western Contact Group in demarches urging delay of the debate. Although it is the Security Council and not the General Assembly which will supervise the U.N. plan, we fear that the inevitable hard-line African statements and resolutions in the General Assembly could prompt South Africa to withdraw its agreement to the pre-implementation meeting and the implementation date, on the grounds of U.N. partiality to SWAPO. (C)

2. Argentina: I met with Argentine Foreign Minister Pastor this morning. On the issue of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission (IAHRC) Report on Argentina, Pastor said the Argentines will circulate a draft resolution this afternoon

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and urged that we continue efforts to reach agreement. I emphasized the importance we attach to maintaining the authority and effectiveness of the IAHRC. Regarding Bolivia, Pastor said Argentine recognition of the Garcia Meza regime should not be confused with support for certain policies of the regime. President Videla has twice urged ex-Bolivian President Banzer to use his influence to bring about a halt to human rights abuses and narcotics trafficking, and to encourage eventual return to democracy. On the non-proliferation issue, Pastor reaffirmed that his government is actively seeking a safeguards formula that will permit it to sign the Treaty of Tlatelolco. (C)

3. Meeting With Foreign Minister Uribe: During my meeting with the Colombian Foreign Minister, Uribe raised the pending Quita Sueno Treaty as his first order of business. He said his government hoped the Treaty would be ratified under this Administration and not left for the new Administration. In the area of narcotics, Uribe said that, with or without U.S. assistance funds, Colombia was committed to fight vigorously against narcotics trafficking. He cited new agreements Colombia had signed with Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and Honduras for cooperation against narcotics. (C)

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